

# Tax Center changes way it will operate this year

BY JOHN FORD  
VITA CENTER

It will not be long before the end of January is here. By that time, taxpayers will have received their W-2s and 1099s, and will have decided they better do something soon about getting their income tax returns prepared, particularly if they know they are entitled to a substantial refund. This year the Kirtland AFB VITA Tax Center will open on Jan. 30 for tax return preparation, and earlier that week for booking appointments.

Compared to last year, there are a number of changes planned for the center's operation. Some of the more important changes are that:

- \* Tax returns will be prepared not only centrally at the tax center, but also by unit tax advisors at work stations located around the base.

Last year, all returns were done entirely in the tax center, principally because of security and confidentiality issues involving the tax software. Those problems have now been resolved and the unit tax advisor volunteers will have the ability to prepare tax returns at their work sites using their computers.

This should make it more convenient for almost everyone involved.

- \* Before having their taxes prepared either centrally or by a unit tax advisor, all clients will be expected to complete a client intake questionnaire. This questionnaire, similar to what many certified public accountant firms require of their clients, asks each person to provide identifying information, as well as to gather and compile the various facts and figures behind many of the more common tax deductions and tax credits.

In addition to speeding up the overall preparation process, the questionnaire should help each person recognize and take advantage of all credits and deductions to which he or she is entitled.

- \* Finally, compared to last year, no limits will be placed on who can and cannot have their returns prepared as part of the VITA program. The VITA program was originally established to help those most in need of having their tax returns prepared professionally. The Kirtland AFB program follows through with that tradition and provides a benefit to many of our military and retired personnel.

Any limits imposed on which tax returns get prepared are imposed by the IRS, and their policy is that the more complex tax returns should be completed by paid preparers.

Two classic examples are tax returns requiring a full Schedule C (as opposed to a Schedule C-EZ) and tax returns requiring calculations of gains or losses on rental real estate property. Note that one of the exceptions to the Schedule C prohibition is a business involving the use of the home for day care.

A Web site is currently under construction for the VITA Tax Center. Its most important function will be to make it as convenient as possible for the center's clients to get ready to have their tax returns prepared. Those visiting the site will be able to download or print copies of the client intake questionnaire, and will be able to choose a specific preparer by location or organizational unit.

The projected completion date for the site is Jan. 24. The Internet address is: [www.kirtland.af.mil/taxcentr/index.htm](http://www.kirtland.af.mil/taxcentr/index.htm).

## Vicious dog policy set for housing residents

Dogs now designated as being among breeds that are defined as vicious have been banned from housing on Kirtland AFB. Inbound personnel will not be permitted to bring dogs that are on the list of breeds categorized as tending to be aggressive.

Housing residents who have dogs that are breeds in the list will be permitted to keep their pets. The dogs may not be bred and the residents may not acquire more dogs within the breed categories no longer permitted in housing. If dogs "grandfathered" in base housing escape their yards, threaten or bite someone one time, they will be banned. Additionally, the dog owners must show proof of liability insurance to the Housing Office. The policy must specifically identify the dog and have \$100,000 of coverage.

Breeds on the list are:

- \* Pit Bulls;
- \* American Staffordshire Bull Terriers,
- \* English Staffordshire Bull Terriers,
- \* Rottweilers (full or mixed breed);

- \* Wolf Hybrids or
  - \* any canine breed with dominant traits geared toward aggression.
- In cases of mixed breeds or disputes, the base veterinarian will determine whether the animal falls within the disallowed breed category.

**All pets must be registered with the Veterinary Clinic and Military Family Housing by Feb. 28.**

Failure to observe the prohibitions in the order is a violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The veterinary clinic at 846-4276 is open Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

### 377th Air Base Wing Training Day is Jan. 16

The monthly 377th Air Base Wing Training Day is Jan. 16. Visitors to the base are advised to call the section they will be visiting to make sure there will be someone to serve them.

Normal hours resume Jan. 17.

Chemical Warfare training is 7-11 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m. in Building 20682. M-60 training is 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. at the firing range. Workgroup manager, information management and postal augmentation training will be provided in the workgroup manager classroom.

Various other training will take place within individual units.

The Military Personnel Flight and 377th Logistics Readiness Squadron will be closed for training.

The 377th Medical Group will open in the morning for medical sick call only. Pharmacies will also be closed.

### Trash bins not for housing, dormitory residents

Trash bins near industrial and work areas are not for use by base housing or dormitory residents.

Sandia National Laboratories Transfer Station process the bin contents for recycling.

If you have items for disposal

and can't use regular waste removal services, contact Civil Engineers service call desk at 846-8222 and request special pickup, or use the base landfill.

Refer to housing brochure or call 846-8217.

# Year of the Family comes to a close

BY TERESA REINHARD

## Year of the Family coordinator

Year of the Family, an initiative of Gen. Lester L. Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, officially closed Dec. 31, but the spirit and intent of "YOFAF" and improving quality of life continues.

Originally intended to be only one year, 2001, the general extended the popular program to 2002 to continue the improvements and morale building projects started in the previous year.

Lt. Col. Dave Arreola, Air Force Materiel Command quality of life chief, said Lyles has "approved the creation of a new Air Force Materiel Command quality of life office, which will be the liaison, advocate

and coordinator for installation quality of life concerns. This will include continued funding for quality of life projects and programs."

Look for a call for proposals to enhance quality of life at Kirtland AFB in the near future. Meanwhile, the Community Helping Agencies Team, comprised of the base chapel, Family Advocacy Program, Child Development Centers, Family Support Center, Health and Wellness Center and the Life Skills Support Center, will continue working together to present services and programs that enhance quality of life for TEAMKIRTLAND.

Lyles' premise for Year of the Family was to enhance quality of life for military families and to improve the marketing of programs

and activities already in existence.

Year of the Family addressed family adaptation, community satisfaction and personal preparedness, safety, health and well-being.

With those goals in mind, Kirtland AFB received money from Air Force Materiel Command to support various quality of life initiatives and programs.

Kirtland AFB received \$187,000 from the command in 2001 to build the first half of the multi-use paved trail and \$7,800 to print a Resources and Benefits Handbook.

During 2002, \$142,000 was awarded for several projects and programs. The multi-use paved trail was completed with \$97,000. Outdoor Recreation purchased \$25,000 worth of ski equipment. A chapel

family plan for the Daily Grind Coffee House and marriage enrichment seminars was funded for \$20,000.

The projects were selected for funding because they impact a large percentage of the base population in a positive way.

A Kirtland AFB Year of the Family Web site with an online resources guide was established in May 2001. The site's name changes, but the same information will be preserved and combined with the base Web site.

Other Year of the Family projects included the Family Fall Fun Fest 2001 and Kirtland Family Day 2002. Both events provided an opportunity to have fun, relax and learn about the programs and services offered by the Community Helping Agencies Team.

## Recruiter Screening team visits Jan. 17

Air Force Recruiting Service would like to give you the chance to choose your next assignment and possibly manage your own office near or in your home state.

If you're a senior airman through master sergeant with less than 16 years, the Recruiter Screening Team may have the answer to your Air Force future.

A team from Randolph AFB, Texas, will host a one-hour briefing in the 377th Air Base Wing Presentation Center, Jan. 17, 10:30 a.m.

In addition to volunteers, recruiting officials encourage those people who were identified by the Air Force Personnel Center and who were approved by their commander for recruiting duty to attend the briefing, as well as individuals in a

mandatory retraining career field.

The briefing will focus on the many benefits of being a recruiter and addresses many of the rumors associated with recruiting duty. Spouses are encouraged to attend so they fully understand the challenges and rewards of becoming a recruiter.

Master Sgt. David Halvorson, 846-6636, Kirtland AFB career advisor, is the project officer for this team's visit.

More information is available on the team's Web site, [www.rs.af.mil/RTR.htm](http://www.rs.af.mil/RTR.htm), or by calling the Recruiter Screening Team point of contact Master Sgt. Douglas Byrd, DSN 487-3511 or 3512, or 210-652-3511 or 3512.

## Former 377th ABW commander selected for brigadier general

The commander and vice commander of the Air Armament Center at Eglin AFB—parent organization of the 377th Air Base Wing—were confirmed by the Senate for promotion.

Robert W. Chedister, Air Armament Center commander at Eglin AFB, Fla., was promoted to major general effective Dec. 1. His vice commander—Chris Anzalone—was promoted to brigadier general at a date yet to be determined.

Also on the list was Polly A. Peyer for promotion to brigadier general at a date yet to be determined. Peyer was the 377th Air Base Wing commander, 1999-2000. She is vice commander of the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, Tinker AFB.